California Megan's Law Sex Offender Locator Map



Overview

The California Sex Offender Locator Map provides the citizens of California with the ability to search for registered sex offenders living within their community. This site was developed in accordance with current California Megan's Law provisions.

To better assist the user, the On-Line Help feature has been broken down into the following sections:

- Searches
- Search Results
- Maps
- Search Tips
- Frequently Asked Technical Questions

In accordance with California Penal Code section 290.46 PC, this site displays registered sex offenders based on the following categories:

- 1. **Full Address.** A sex offender in this category will have his/her full residence address displayed. Generally, address disclosure will occur if he/she has been convicted of any of the following.
 - Lewd conduct with a child under the age of 14.
 - A sex offense involving force or fear.
 - A designated sex crime with a prior or subsequent conviction for a sex crime requiring registration.
 - An offense resulting in a commitment as a Sexually Violent Predator as defined in Section 6600 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- 2. **ZIP Code Only.** A sex offender in this category is required to register and has been convicted of an offense(s) subject to public disclosure. However, he/she does not meet the "Full Address" display criteria. Although "ZIP Code Only" rather than "Full Address" will be displayed, all other Offender Profile information will be the same.

Sex offenders who do not fall into the "Full Address" or "ZIP Code Only" display categories will not be disclosed on the Internet.

Searches

The California Megan's Law Sex Offender Locator Map includes seven search categories. They are:





Name Search

To locate a registered sex offender by name, click on the button located on the left side of the Sex Offender Locator Map. Text boxes will be displayed on the right side where an offender's first and last names can be entered.

When using the search a last name is required. Whenever possible a first name should also be entered, as this will narrow your search results. The offender's name and known aliases will be searched. The exact spelling is required. If you receive a response that states, "Your search returned no results" you can try searching by city, ZIP Code, or county.

When searching a last name, it is not necessary to include suffixes such as Jr. or Sr. Also, name searches are not case sensitive. This means you can type UPPER and/or lower case letters and the results will be the same. For more tips on searching see the Search Tips section.

Offender Name Search

Enter Last Name		
Ente	r First Name	
	Search	

Clear Search

After clicking on the button, the application will provide you with the results of your search. If the search returns only one result, an Offender Profile will appear in the window. If the search returns multiple possible results, a listing will appear. Clicking on each of the names on the list will give you a complete individual Offender Profile for the name selected. For more information regarding search results refer to the Search Results section.

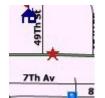
To search a different name or correct a mistake, click on the button. This will remove all previously entered information and allow you to enter a new name.

Address Search

To locate "Full Address" registered sex offenders at or near a particular address click on the **Address** button located on the left side of the Sex Offender Locator Map. Text boxes and a dropdown list will be displayed on the right side where an address can be entered. Begin by entering the street address, and city and/or ZIP Code in the text boxes.

Next select a search distance by selecting one of the distances provided in the "Select Distance" dropdown list. The default setting is a ³/₄ mile radius. This setting is recommended for use in an initial search. To select a different radius click, on the down arrow on the right side of the "Select Distance" dropdown list and select the preferred radius. Then click on

the Search button.



If your search finds the desired address, a map will appear with a red star that identifies the specific location you entered to be searched.

If your search returns multiple possible address matches, the "Select Item" box will be filled with the possible matches. Choose an item from

the list and click on the Show Hem on Map button.

After clicking on the displayed on the map. A red star that identifies the address you requested will appear on the map. For more information regarding map displays refer to the Maps section.

To search a different address or correct a mistake, click on the

button. This will remove all previously entered information and allow you to enter a new address.

Note: Thomas Brothers map data is updated periodically. Therefore, you may occasionally be unable to locate a newer address. If this occurs, you may still be able to view the address or surrounding area by searching the city, ZIP Code, or county in which the address is located. You can then use the mapping tools (zoom, etc) to zero in on the desired location.

Address Search

Enter an address to search for nearby offenders.

Enter Street Address

City

ZIP Code

Select Distance Within 3/4 Mile ▼

Search

Select Item:

Show Item on Map

Clear Search

City Search

To search a specific city for the location of registered sex offenders, City Search click on the button located on the left side of the Sex Enter City Offender Locator Map. A text box and dropdown list will be displayed on the right side where a specific city name can be entered or a county can be selected. If you know the name of the city you want to search, View Map View Map enter the name in the text box and click on either the View Listing View Listing buttons. orSearch TIP: Select County View Map for a complete listing of Clicking on the button will display a map of the city cities within specified you have requested and the locations of "Full Address" registered sex county. offenders. Select County View Listing Clicking on the button will display a list of registered sex offenders residing in the city you requested. Clicking on any one of **View Cities** the names on the listing will provide a complete individual Offender Profile of the sex offender selected. Select Item: If you are unsure of a city name, select a county from the "Select County" dropdown list. Then click on the "View Cities" button. Next, select a city from the list in the "Select Item" box. Then click on the Show Item on Map button. Show Item on Map Show Item on Map After clicking on the button, the search results will be displayed. For more information regarding map displays, refer to the Clear Search Maps section.

A city search will also include information on the total number of registered sex offenders in the selected city and, of those, how many are displayed on the map as "Full Address" offenders. You can view a listing of the registered sex offenders by clicking on the number of total registrants (underlined blue text).

To search for a different city or correct a mistake, click on the remove all previously entered information and allow you to enter a new city.

ZIP Code Search

To search a specific ZIP Code for the location of registered sex offenders, click on the TIP Code button on the left side of the Sex Offender ZIP Code Search Locator Map. A text box will be displayed on the right side where a specific ZIP Code ZIP Code can be entered. Enter a ZIP Code and click on either the View Map **View Listing** button. View Map View Map button will display the ZIP Code area Clicking on the **View Listing** you entered and the location of "Full Address" registered sex offenders. For more information regarding map displays refer to the Maps section. Clear Search **View Listing** button will display a list of registered sex Clicking on the **View Listing** offenders for the ZIP Code you entered. For more information regarding the button refer to the Search Results section.

A ZIP Code search will also include information on the total number of registered sex offenders for that ZIP Code and, of those, how many are displayed on the map as "Full Address" offenders. You can view a listing of the registered sex offenders by clicking on the number of total registrants (underlined blue text.).

To search a different ZIP Code or correct a mistake, click on the will remove all previously entered information and allow you to enter a new ZIP Code.

County Search

To search a county for the location of registered sex offenders, click on the	County Search
button located on the left side of the Sex Offender Locator	The same of the sa
Map. A dropdown list will be displayed on the right side. Select the county	SACRAMENTO -
you want to search and click on either the View Map or View Listing button.	View Map View Listing
Clicking on the button will display a map of the county you selected and the location of the "Full Address" registered sex offenders. For more information regarding map displays refer to the Maps section.	Clear Search
Clicking on the View Listing button will display a list of registered sex o you selected. For more information regarding View Listing refer to the	ffenders for the county Search Results section.
To search for a different county either select another county from the dropdo	own list or click on the
Clear Search button and select another county	

Parks Search

To locate "Full Address" registered sex offenders near a particular park, click on the Parks button located on the left side of the Sex Offender Locator Map. Text boxes and dropdown lists will be displayed on the right side where information can be entered or selected. Next, select a search distance by selecting one from the "Select Distance" dropdown list. The default setting is a ¾ mile radius. This setting is recommended for use in an initial search. To select a different radius click on the down arrow on the right side of the "Select Distance" dropdown list and select the preferred radius.



Next, enter the city and/or ZIP Code and click on the button. A map will be displayed with a red star that identifies the park you searched. For more information regarding map displays refer to the Maps section.

If you are unsure of a park name, you can simply enter the city, ZIP Code or county information and then click on the "Select Item" box will be filled with possible matches. Select a park from the "Select Item" box and click on the "Show Item on Map button.

After clicking on the displayed on the map. A red star that identifies the location of the park you selected will appear on the map. For more information regarding map display refer to the Maps section.

If you do not receive any results for your search, it may be due to a spelling error or the map data for that area needs to be updated. You may still be able to find the area of the park by searching by city, ZIP Code, or county. You can then use the mapping tools (zoom, etc.) to zero in on the desired park area.

To search a different park name or correct a mistake, click on the will remove all previously entered information and allow you to enter new park information.

Park Search

Must enter City, County or ZIP code for a full listing of Parks in specified area.

Enter Name of Park
Select Distance Within 3/4 Mile
City
ZIP code
County Select County
Search
Select Item:
Show Item on Man

Clear Search

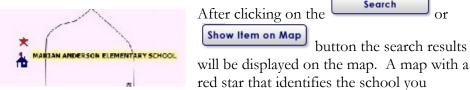
Schools Search

To locate "Full Address" registered sex offenders near a specific school, click on the Schools button located on the left side of the Sex Offender Locator Map. This application includes most preschool, elementary, middle, junior and high schools, as well as universities and colleges. Text boxes and dropdown lists will be displayed on the right side where information can be entered.

Begin by entering the name of the school you want to search. Next select a search distance by selecting one of the distances provided in the "Select Distance" drop down list. The default setting is a ³/₄ mile radius. This setting is recommended for use in an initial search. To select a different radius click on the down arrow on the right side of the "Select Distance" drop down list and select the preferred radius. Next, enter the city and/or

ZIP Code and click on the button.

If you are unsure of a school name, you can simply enter the city, ZIP Code or county information and then click on the Search button. The "Select Item" box will be filled with possible matches. Select a school from the list and click on the Show Hem on Map button.



entered or selected will appear on the map. For more information regarding map displays refer to the Maps section.

If you do not receive any results for your search, it may be due to a spelling error or the map data for that area needs to be updated. In addition, the map data may not include every school, university, or college in California. The Department of Justice is currently working to identify and supplement

existing information. You may still be able to find the area of the school by searching by city, ZIP Code or county. You can then use the mapping tools (zoom, etc.) to zero in on the area of the school, university or college. You might also be able to use an address search to locate the school, university or college.

To search a different school name or correct a mistake, click on the will remove all previously entered information and allow you to enter new school information.

School Search

Enter City, County or ZIP code for a full listing of Schools in specified area.

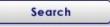
Name of School













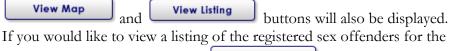


Select Search Obtion

California County Map

To locate registered sex offenders using the California rollover county map, move the cursor to the county you want to search. The county outline and name will appear on the right side of the rollover map. Click on the county you want to search.

A map of the county you selected will be displayed. For more information regarding map display refer to the Maps section. A dropdown list showing the name of the county you selected and





A county search will also include information on the total number of registered sex offenders for the county you selected and, of those, how many are "Full Address" offenders. You can view a listing of the registered sex offenders by clicking on the number of total registrants (underlined blue text).

To search for a different county click on the county from the dropdown list.

Search Results

To view search results, click on the View Listing button to view a listing of registered sex offenders that meet the search criteria you have entered or selected. The View Listing button will appear on the right side of the browser window under the Search button.

For city, ZIP Code and county searches, the search results page will include the total number of registered sex offenders that matched your search criteria and, of those, how many are "Full Address" offenders. If you click on the **View Listing** button, you will see a listing of the registered sex offenders that matched your search criteria.

The listing will include the number of registered sex offenders on the listing and the number of listing pages. The page numbers are shown at the top and bottom of each listing page. Up to twenty offenders are displayed on each page. You can scroll within a page but you cannot "scroll" from page to page.

page 1 2 3 4 5 6 of 90 (1-20) of 1795 offenders

Each Search Results listing page also displays the following:



- A thumbnail photograph of the registered sex offender(s) The user can link to an Offender Profile by clicking on the thumbnail photograph, the name or the More Info link under the registered sex offender's name.
- A indicates that the registered sex offender is in violation of their registration requirements For more information about violations you can click on the In Violation at the top and bottom of the page. The Offender Profile includes the date the registered sex offender fell out of compliance with their registration requirements.

- Each registered sex offender's name and known alias To obtain specific information about the registered sex offender, click on the offender's photograph, name or More Info to view his or her Offender Profile.
- Address For "Full Address" registered sex offenders, you can view the location of their addresses on the map by clicking on Show on map. For other registered sex offenders, the law does not allow for specific address disclosure. To obtain additional information on these offenders, click on their thumbnail photograph, name or More Info to view their Offender Profile.
- City The city column can be displayed alphabetically by clicking on **City*.
- **ZIP Code** The ZIP Code column can be displayed in numerical order by clicking on 2-1-21P
- County The county column can be displayed alphabetically by clicking on
- New Search
 This button allows the user to return to the main search screen to begin a new search.

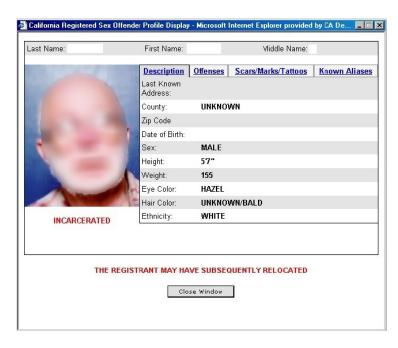
Important: Any address listed for a registered sex offender is the address given when the sex offender last registered. Because information can change quickly, the California Department of Justice makes no representation either express or implied that the information on this site is current.

Offender Profile

The Search Results pages also provide a link to the "Offender Profile." To view the offender's profile from a listing of offenders, click on the thumbnail photograph, name or More Info. An Offender Profile can also be viewed by clicking on the blue square that identifies the location of the "Full Address" registered sex offender on a map.

An Offender Profile includes:

- Offender name
- Address (when allowed by law)
- Violation status, if any
- Physical descriptor information
- Offense information
- Scars, marks, and tattoos
- Known aliases



You can view the different information categories of the Offender Profile by clicking on the tab headings. To close the Offender Profile, you can either click on the close Window button or the in the upper right corner of the window.

Maps

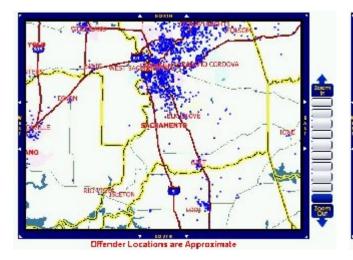
The California Megan's Law Sex Offender Locator Map uses maps to display the geographic location of "Full Address" and "ZIP Code Only" registered sex offenders within the communities they live. With each search, the user has the option to display the results on the map or to view a listing of the results. This allows the user to more accurately identify the whereabouts of registered sex offenders and increase the user's ability to protect themselves and their families and loved ones.

Using the Mapping Tools

The mapping tools are used to interact with the map display and to perform a number of functions, such as zoom, center and pan. These tools are described below.

Zoom Bar – located to the right of the map

The "Zoom Bar" has multiple levels that allow the user to view a map from street level (the first white button at the top of the Zoom Bar) to county level (the last white button at the bottom of the Zoom Bar) and at multiple levels in between. The blue "Zoom In" and "Zoom Out" buttons can also be clicked to increase or decrease zoom.

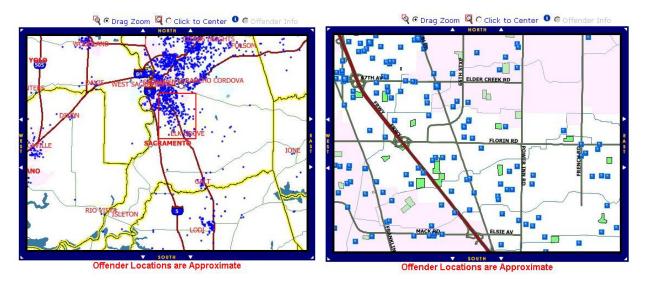




Drag Zoom – O Drag Zoom located above the map

This web site usually defaults to the Orag Zoom tool when a map is displayed. The "Drag Zoom" tool is selected or working if there is a dot in the radio button next to the tool.

This tool can be used to magnify a selected area of the map. To select an area, position the cursor at one corner of the area you would like to view. With the left mouse button depressed, drag the box (red outline) until it encloses the desired area and release the mouse button. The map display will refresh and zoom into the area you outlined.



Click to Center - Click to Center located above the map

This tool allows the user to select a point on the map, which will become the center of the map on the next map display.

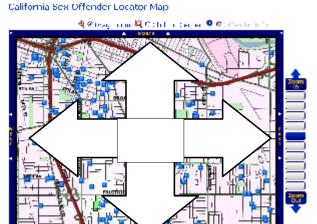
To use this tool, select it by clicking on the radio button next to Center . Next, click on the point on the map that you desire to be the center of the map display. The map display will refresh and center on the point you selected.

Offender Info – Offender Info located above the map

This tool can only be used when there are fifty or fewer offender squares on the map display. If there are fifty or fewer registered sex offender squares displayed, this tool is automatically activated. If more than fifty squares are displayed, this tool cannot be used and will be grayed out. By zooming in using the "Zoom Bar" or "Drag Zoom" tools, the Offender Profile information can be made available. "Full Address" registered sex offenders are identified on a map by blue squares. A small square identifies the location of a single registered sex offender and a large square identifies the location of multiple registered sex offenders. Clicking on a small square will allow the user to view that registered sex offender's Offender Profile. Clicking on a large square will allow the user to view a listing of the registered sex offenders that live at the location. You can then click on a thumbnail photograph, the registered sex offender's name or More Info to view the related Offender Profile.

Viewers may access one or all of the Offender Profiles visible on the map display.

Pan Bars – located in the map frame (NORTH, EAST, SOUTH, WEST)



This tool changes the map display by panning or moving the map in the chosen compass direction.

To use this tool, click on the desired compass direction located in the edge of the map frame. This will cause the map display to pan in the compass direction you selected.

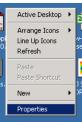
Search Tips

- When you search by name, a last name is required; however, entering a first name will narrow your search results and should be provided. You can also use a first initial and last name to search for a registered sex offender.
- To search for a registered sex offender with a hyphenated name, enter the entire name including the hyphen.
- The name search will only find matches when the spelling of a registered sex offender's name and/or known aliases are exactly the same as the name you searched.
- To search a name, the exact spelling is required. If you do not get a result, you can try searching by city, ZIP Code or county if you know approximately where the registered sex offender lives.
- To search a last name, do not include suffixes such as Jr, Sr. or II.
- If you are unable to locate an address for a residence in a new development it may be because of a spelling error or the map data has not yet been updated. You still may be able to find the area of an address by searching the city, ZIP Code, or county. You can then use the map tools (Drag Zoom, Zoom Scale, etc.) to zero in on the desired area.
- If a registered sex offender's address is not known, he or she will be listed by name and county only. The county is based on the county of the local law enforcement agency that reported that the address was unknown.
- Searches are not case sensitive. You can type UPPER or lower case letters and the results will be the same.
- Name searches are sorted by last name. If a registered sex offender's alias matches the name you searched, he or she will be shown at the end of the listing of offenders. The matching alias will appear below the offender's primary name.
- To enter different information or to correct a mistake, click on the "Clear Search" button.
- When entering information for an address search, you can enter the street name including the suffix or you can use the common abbreviations for the suffix. For example, you can enter 122 Main Street or 122 Main St. However, you are not required to include a suffix. If your location is not found, retry your search by removing the suffix. For example, enter 122 Main, instead of 122 Main Street or St.

- If you search for a school or park and no results are found, try using part of the school or park name. For example, Calvin Coolidge School can be searched as Coolidge.
- If you are unable to locate a school or park it may be due to a spelling error or the map data has not yet been updated. You still may be able to find the area of a school or park by searching by city, ZIP Code, or county. You can then use the map tools (Drag Zoom, Zoom Scale, etc.) to zero in on the school or park.
- For some registered sex offenders, photographs may not be available. The Department of Justice is working to ensure that there is a current photograph for every offender. However, the Department relies on the registered sex offender to comply with their annual registration requirements to obtain the photographs.
- This site includes information on registered sex offenders who are incarcerated. To search for an incarcerated offender, select the name search and enter the offender's name. Only Offender Profile information is available, since these sex offenders are not in the community.
- Transients are not shown on the map. However, they can be found by name and if the information was provided, by city, ZIP Code, and/or county. An Offender Profile is available for these registered sex offenders.

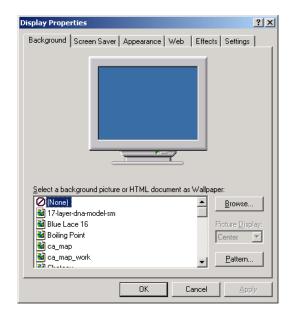
Frequently Asked Technical Questions

- 1. Can I use a Macintosh computer? Yes. It is our intent to make Megan's Law information available to the widest possible audience. We have taken steps to ensure that the site works on Macintosh computers. If you are using a Macintosh, we recommend that you use Operating System Version 9 or greater and Internet Explorer Version 5.1 or greater.
- 2. Will you be making this site compatible with other operating systems and browsers? We will continue to improve this site to include as many computer users as possible. We will consider other operating systems for future enhancements to the Megan's Law Web site.
- 3. Can I use America On Line (AOL)? During our testing, AOL users have successfully used the Megan's Law web site. Our site uses complex mapping algorithms and it is not possible to test these algorithms for all of the AOL versions currently in use. If you are having trouble using this site with AOL, please try minimizing your AOL browser, maintain your Internet connection, and then start Microsoft Internet Explorer in a new window to access the site.
- **4.** What do you mean by recommending a screen resolution of 1024 X 768? The numbers 1024 and 768 refer to Picture Elements or pixels. A pixel is the smallest dot your computer monitor can produce. The Megan's Law web site is programmed to use 1024 pixels horizontally across the screen and 768 vertically in order to show all of the features of the mapping and data searching of sex offenders with minimal scrolling. You may use lower screen resolutions (for example 800 X 600); however, you will have to scroll the screen horizontally and vertically to see all of the features of the web site.
- **5.** How can I change my screen resolution? Click your right mouse button while your cursor is anywhere in the open area of your computer screen's desktop. You will see the following box.

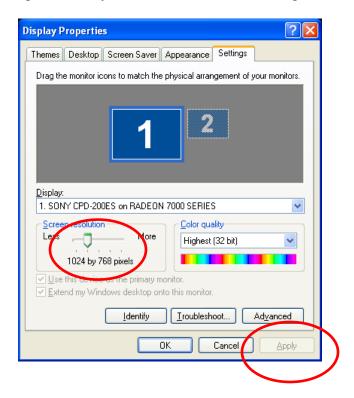


Note, these examples are from a computer that uses the Microsoft Windows operating system.

Click Properties to show the "Display Properties" window as shown below.



Click the "Settings" tab and you should see a similar dialog box as below.



Use your mouse cursor to drag the slider indicated in the top red circle so that it changes the numbers to "1024 by 768 pixels" and then click "Apply."

Your computer will then ask you if you want to keep this new setting. Click "Yes." You have 15 seconds to respond or your computer will automatically revert to the prior settings.



6. What version Browser do I need?

You will need Microsoft Internet Explorer Version 5.0 or greater, or Netscape Version 7.2 or greater. This site also works with the Mozilla and Firefox browsers; however, it has not been fully tested with browsers other than Internet Explorer and Netscape.

7. How can I update my Browser?

Please note that the Department of Justice does not endorse any products including Internet browsers. We offer no warranty as to the suitability of any computer program to your computer or any application. We offer the following information solely as an aid to assist you in viewing Megan's Law information.

For Internet Explorer - Browse to http://www.microsoft.com. Click on "downloads" and you will see a menu listing popular downloads including Internet Explorer. Follow the instructions from Microsoft for downloading or updating this browser.

<u>For Netscape</u> – Browse to http://www.netscape.com and select "Downloads of the Day." Follow the instructions from Netscape for downloading or updating this browser.

<u>For Mozilla and Firefox</u> – Browse to http://www.mozilla.org. Both Mozilla and Firefox can be downloaded from this site. Follow the instructions from Mozilla for downloading or updating this browser.

Note: Browsers can be rather large files. If you are using a dial-up Internet connection, it might take a long time for your browser download and upgrade to occur.